

STATEMENT OF ECONOMIC IMPACT TO SMALL BUSINESSES

1. Name of Board, Committee or Council: Board of Chiropractic Examiners

2. Rulemaking hearing date: October 20, 2006

3. Types of small businesses that will be directly affected by the proposed rules:

- (a) Licensed chiropractic physicians who intend to practice acupuncture
- (b) Sole proprietors, partnerships and corporations that employ or seek to employ licensed chiropractic physicians who intend to practice acupuncture.

4. Types of small businesses that will bear the cost of the proposed rules:

The types of small businesses listed in the answer to # 3 will bear the initial cost of the proposed rules. However, the Board anticipates that portions of the proposed rule amendments will eventually increase small business revenues.

5. Types of small businesses that will directly benefit from the proposed rules:

- (a) Licensed chiropractic physicians who intend to practice acupuncture
- (b) Sole proprietors, partnerships and corporations that employ or seek to employ licensed chiropractic physicians who intend to practice acupuncture.

6. Description of how small business will be adversely impacted by the proposed rules:

Small businesses may have increased expenses associated with the education and examination requirements that must be completed before the practice of acupuncture may commence. However, the Board anticipates the proposed rule amendments eventually, will favorably, rather than adversely, impact small business expenses because it will no longer be necessary for small businesses to hire or utilize certified acupuncturists or medical doctors who perform acupuncture. This will likely result in increased revenues for chiropractic physicians that are offset by reduced revenues for certified acupuncturists and medical doctors.

7. Alternatives to the proposed rule that will accomplish the same objectives but are less burdensome, and why they are not being proposed:

The Board does not believe there are less burdensome alternatives because the proposed rule amendments do not add requirements to initially perform acupuncture that exceed what is contained in the new law, that being Public Chapter 775 of the Public Acts of 2006. There is no authority for a licensing board to impose requirements less burdensome than those of the applicable statute. Additionally, the Board does not believe the proposed continuing education requirements for licensees who practice acupuncture are excessively burdensome because only the subject matter, and not the total number of required hours is changing.

8. Comparison of the proposed rule with federal or state counterparts:

Federal - The Board is not aware of any federal counterparts.

State - The proposed rule amendments are similar to requirements for podiatrists who perform ankle surgery. Although the requirements to perform ankle surgery are set forth in statutes and rules, there is no special license or certification bestowed.